

STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
W. F. COGSWELL, M. D., SECRETARY

HEALTH REVIEW

July 12, 1928.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER. The Rocky Mountain spotted fever season is about over, the ticks having retired from active work. During the season there have been 24 cases of this disease reported to the State Board of Health, with five deaths. This does not include the laboratory case which occurred in February. The cases occurred in the following counties: Ravalli, three; Musselshell, six; Carbon, two; Missoula, three; Rosebud, two; Stillwater, two; and one case in each of the following counties: Lewis & Clark, Pergus, Lake, Big Horn, Gallatin and Garfield. There were three deaths in Missoula County, one in Pergus County and one in Gallatin County.

The number of cases occurring this year was much less than usual. The average number of cases per year since 1914 is 31, and the average number of deaths per year, 9. The reason for the diminished number of cases this year is probably due to the fact that the people are being educated and are taking more care in protecting themselves, and that a large number of people in the infected areas have been vaccinated with the Spencer-Parker vaccine. According to Doctor Spencer's report there have been 2,904 people vaccinated in Montana within the past three years. Out of a population of about 2,000 people in the infected areas in western Montana, over 1,100 have been vaccinated. The demand for the vaccine is greater than the supply. It is hoped that with increased laboratory facilities at Hamilton, a much larger supply will be available next year.

Three cases of tularaemia have been reported and one case of undulant fever.

TRACHOMA SURVEY. Upon request of the State Board of Health of Montana, the United States Public Health Service and the Indian Bureau have agreed to make a trachoma survey in the schools in those counties surrounding the Indian reservations, with a view to determining the spread of this disease from the Indian population to the whites. Dr. Paul D. Mossman, trachoma expert of the United States Public Health Service, and Dr. C. E. Yates, trachoma expert of the Indian Bureau, have been detailed to make this survey, which will be done shortly after the opening of the schools in September. We ask the cooperation of the health officers, physicians and school authorities, in order that the survey may be complete. Dr. J. H. Crouch, epidemiologist of the State Board of Health of Montana, will represent the State Board of Health and make the necessary arrangements.

MILK SURVEY. The American Child Health Association will make a milk survey in various towns of the state, beginning August 6. This association has made such surveys in various states and has done much, not only to encourage the dairy industry, but to aid in furnishing to the people a safer milk supply. This survey will be conducted in cooperation with the State Livestock Sanitary Board, the State Board of Health, and the local health authorities in the towns in which the survey is made. The health officers of Helena, Great Falls and Missoula have already requested that the work be done in their counties.

CURRENT DISEASE STATISTICS

Reported for weeks ending

	June 30.	July 7.
Tuberculosis,	1	7
Typhoid fever,	3	5
Smallpox,	9	12
Diphtheria,	2	2
Scarlet fever,	4	1
Measles,	4	15
Whooping cough,	3	2
Chickenpox,	5	8
Epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis,	0	3
Rocky Mountain spotted fever,	1	1
Tularaemia,	1	0
Other diseases,	9	5

WFC/JB

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